

the county, with many being located in flood plains or on cut-out hillsides.

Cullowhee Township and surrounding areas have experienced the most dense and most rapidly growing areas in the county. Residential development is also heavy in the Indian Hills section of the northwestern portion of the county.

The subdivision of land is the first step in the process of community development. Streets and lots, once platted and developed, set the over-all pattern of development for a particular portion of the county. The county has a continuing interest in the development, while a developer may have only a temporary interest. Subdivision regulations applied in advance of development provide a community with its only opportunity to insure that neighborhoods are properly designed.

One of the major problems with sparsely settled areas in the county is providing those residential areas with governmental services. Such necessities as water, sewer, fire and police protection, health facilities and education become very expensive for the county to provide. In many cases these services are probably impossible to be provided by the county.

COMMERCIAL LAND USE

As can be seen from Map 2, commercial areas outside of the municipalities are primarily located in the Indian Hills section along U. S. 441 towards Cherokee. The commercial uses along U. S. 441 are primarily tourist oriented such as motels, restaurants and craft shops. Other parts of the county find convenience type commercial areas, such as small service station-grocery store operations, locally owned.

The central business area of Sylva serves the residents of the entire county. Another commercial area exists near Western Carolina University,